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recursively through the interaction of public and private institutions and in context of the risks that food safety scares, allegations of labour abuses, etc pose to the legitimacy and reputation of both.

Sociological analyses of private food standards have focussed on the implications of certification for small producers, specifically in relation to the power relations between producers, retailers, standards organisations and consumers, and in relation to the potential for standards to facilitate capital concentration by excluding those who can not afford the costs of compliance or certification. This paper diverges from these foci by concentrating on the relationships between standards organisations and state agencies. Through case studies of the international GlobalGAP secretariat and the implementation of GlobalGAP standards in Australia, the Philippines and Vietnam, the paper will analyse the role of national legislation and regulatory agencies in the development and evolution of the standards at the international and national levels. It finds that for all the emphasis within GlobalGAP on benchmarking and harmonisation, GlobalGAP standards and GlobalGAP certified products are not internationally uniform. Private-public sector interdependence create competing imperatives at the international and national levels that are obscured by the language of harmonisation but which challenge nevertheless the legitimacy and effectiveness of standards as a particular governmental strategy.

Loconto, Allison; Fouilleux, Eve: Governing Agrifood Sustainability Through Private Standards: The Case Of The Iseal Alliance

Recent research points to the emergence of 'tripartite standards regimes' (TSRs), i.e., regimes based on socio-technical standards that include 1) processes for certifying compliance, 2) processes for accrediting certifiers, and 3) sanctions for violation (Hatanaka and Busch, 2008). Loconto and Busch (2010) argue that these organizations are increasingly influential in performing the current global economy by 'entangling' (Callon, 1998) intermediaries and translations with the socio-technical supply chains themselves (cf. Busch, 2007; Callon, 1998). Thus, rather than an institutionalization of mistrust in the global market economy – represented by the need for constant conformity assessment and auditing – this framework reinforces theories of self-governance in the agrifood system that pre-empt state-led regulation of markets (Cashore, Auld, and Newsom, 2004; Hatanaka, Bain, and Busch, 2005; Higgins and Lawrence, 2005; Loconto, 2011; Ponte and Gibbon, 2005; Tallontire et al., 2009).

Case studies of ethical and environmental standards show that these conformity assessment systems themselves have been created on political or moral premises, which makes politics fundamental to the exchange process (e.g., Freidberg, 2004; Mansfield, 2004; Ponte, 2008; Reynolds, 2000). This suggests that even within the consolidation of a TSR, political contestations are present. Theories of agrifood governance can help unpack these processes so to better understand how a TSR constructed on the premise of sustainability is emerging. In this paper, we argue that the ISEAL Alliance (the global association for social and environmental standards) is a political actor that utilizes strategies to proselytize its own notion of sustainability and to govern the agrifood system. These strategies include: elaborating rules for standards development, disciplining certification bodies through an assurance code, defining worth through impact assessments, and creating legitimacy for itself by enrolling the research community. By analyzing these strategies we articulate the political dimensions of the emerging global TSR that governs sustainability in the agrifood system.

Logstein, Brit: Physical Activity Among Adolescents- A Multilevel Analysis Of How Place Of Residence Is Associated With Health Behavior